

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

STAFF AND OFFENDER NEWSLETTER

THE TOOL BOX

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7

OCTOBER 2014



KENTUCKY HEALTHCARE CONNECTION

IT'S ALMOST THAT TIME AGAIN

Affordable Care Act Questions and Answers (Q&A)

Q: When does open enrollment for 2015 begin?

A: Open enrollment for health coverage in 2015 begins on November 15, 2014 and ends on February 15, 2015.

Q: What is the penalty for not enrolling into the Affordable Care Act?

A: The fee is \$95 per person in your household or up to 1% of your taxable income, whichever is greater. You will need to report on your 2014 taxes that you did not have health coverage for the required period of time. You may be eligible for a special enrollment if you have a qualifying "life event" or loss of health insurance.

Q: What is special enrollment?

A: Special enrollment allows you to enroll in health coverage when it is not an open enrollment period. To qualify, you must have a "life event" that changes the size of your household or causes you to lose health coverage. You have 60 days to report the change. Some examples of qualifying "life events" are:

- Getting married (if you or your spouse need health insurance)
- Having a baby or adopting a baby (if your current insurance doesn't cover dependents) Moving to a new location (if your move causes you to lose your health coverage)
- Turning 26 (if you lose coverage through your parents' plan)
- Losing health coverage through work and then lose your job, change to a job without health insurance, your employers stops offering health coverage)
- Getting divorced (if you lose coverage because of the divorce)
- Changing income (if you lose Medicaid or KCHIP or if your financial assistance changes)

*****Q&A Continued on page 2*****

Need Information about the Affordable Care Act?

Contact:

KYNECT.KY.GOV

Call Center:

**1-855-4kynect
(855-459-6328)**

Insurance Agents and

Kynectors:

1-855-326-4650



TABLE OF CONTENTS

KY HEALTHCARE CONNECTION Q&A	1-2
SPOTLIGHT ON REENTRY STAFF	3-4
REENTRY ARTICLE BY: LINDA GREEN	5
STATS ON PARENTAL INCARCERATION AND CHILD WELL BEING	6
SAVE THE DATES: REENTRY COUNCIL MEETINGS	7-11
REENTRY COUNCILS IN KY	12
RESOURCES/CONTACT INFORMATION	13

Affordable Care Act Questions and Answers (Q&A) continued:

Q: What types of other income will I be asked to include on the application?

A: You should include income from any of the following sources: Taxable Annuity Payments, Dividends, Life Estate Interest Income, Farm/Business/Rental (if no direct involvement), Trust Income, Interest, Indemnity Policy, Lottery Payments, Mineral Rights/Royalties, Taxable Nursing Facility Insurance Payments, Oil Leases, Pension/Retirement Payments, Railroad Retirement, Social Security, Taxable Insurance Settlement Payments, Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Alimony/Spousal Support, Military Pension, Capital Gains, IRA Distribution (Traditional), OPM Military Retirement, Other Taxable Income, U.S. Refugee Program, Taxable State Tax Refund



Q: Will I qualify for coverage?

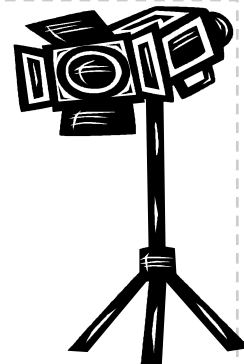
A: To be eligible for healthcare coverage through kynect, you:

- ⇒ Must live in Kentucky
- ⇒ Must be a U.S. citizen or national (or meet qualified alien status)
- ⇒ Cannot currently be in prison
- ⇒ Must provide proof of income

If your household size is this:	You may be eligible for Medicaid if your income* is this:	You may be eligible for help with your insurance bill if your income* is this:
1	Less than \$16,105	\$16,106-\$45,960
2	Less than \$21,708	\$21,709-\$62,040
3	Less than \$27,311	\$27,312-\$78,120
4	Less than \$32,913	\$32,914-\$94,200
5	Less than \$38,516	\$38,517-\$110,280
6	Less than \$44,119	\$44,120-\$126,360
7	Less than \$49,722	\$49,723-\$142,400
8	Less than \$55,325	\$55,326-\$158,520

* Income levels are based on the year 2014. Children and pregnant women may still qualify with higher income levels.





Spotlight on Reentry Staff

Going Above and Beyond

October: Linda Green— Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC)



Linda Green started her employment at WKCC on 10/1/06 as an offender Information Specialist. She remained in that office until 6/1/08 when she was promoted to Administrative Secretary. On April 1, 2009 she was promoted to Classification and Treatment officer. On 4/1/10 she was again promoted to Unit Administrator I/Reentry Coordinator where she remains. She has attended two International Community Corrections Association (ICCA) conferences, one in Reno, Nevada in 2012 and another in Cleveland, Ohio in 2014 and served as a member of the Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) for three years, and being a team leader for over a year. Ms. Green coordinates with offender records, probation and parole, along with Central Office staff to ensure all inmate releases have appropriate home placements and ensures that all inmate paper work is in order prior to release. Among her duties she teaches two PORTAL New Directions classes per week to inmates that are scheduled to be released. In conclusion Ms. Green does an outstanding job with helping inmates reintegrate themselves into society.

Submitted by:

Duke Pettit

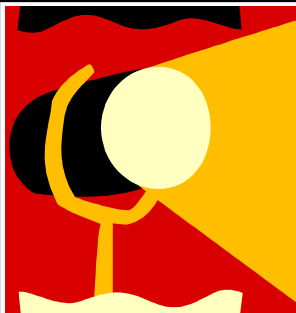
Deputy Warden of Programs -WKCC

Do you have a success story? Would you like to share it? If so, please contact the Offender Reentry Branch. 502-564-2220 or Email: Kerry.Mears@ky.gov or Melissaj.moore@ky.gov

Spotlight on Reentry Staff

Going Above and Beyond October: Kenya Atherton— District 1— Paducah

Submitted By: George Glass, District 1 Probation and Parole Supervisor



Kenya Atherton

Hometown: Paducah, KY

Current Location & Position: D01 Probation & Parole – Supervision of Sex Offenders in McCracken, Graves, Ballard, Carlisle, Hickman and Fulton Counties

Began with P&P: 10/01/2009

Previous State Service: Crime Victim's Advocate with Office of McCracken County Commonwealth's Attorney (2002-2007)

Titles: Sex Offender Supervision Officer, Field Training Officer, Employment Coordinator, Re-Entry Liaison, Fugitive Apprehension Team, West KY Re-Entry Counsel

Trainings: EPICS/MI (Effective Practices in Correctional Supervision) & CPP (Core Correctional Practices) ; Carey Guides ; New Directions ; 24/7 Dads ; Thinking for Change (T4C); Prime For Life (ADE/DUI); STEP Parenting; Offender Employment Specialist; Interviews & Body Language Techniques, St. Petersburg College; Nark II, Drug ID Course; The Ice that Burns: Community Strategies for Combating Methamphetamine; KSIPP-Evolution of Responsible Opioid Prescribing ; MethChek ; VineLink ; Victim Assistance Academy as well as numerous hours of Sex Offender Supervision, Basic Offender Supervision & Victim Advocacy Training

Personal Re-Entry Efforts: Working with local employers and employment agencies to build partnerships that will enable those re-entering society to obtain and maintain employment. Meeting with local Union organizations to establish & develop programs that will assist previous Union Members in returning to the workforce from incarceration. Partnering with local resources such as Vocational Rehabilitation and KYNECT to ensure that all who are released from incarceration are introduced to the programs that are available to them and ensure they find and receive services that are needed if they are not readily available.

D01 Re-Entry Efforts: D01's trained MRT facilitators will begin Partnering with local MRT facilitators (Thyra Futrell with A New Day Counseling Services, LeAnn Garland with Cornerstone & Gretchen Roof with Four Rivers Behavioral Health) in October 2014, to ensure services are provided to those in D01 who would benefit from the program.

By end of Calendar year 2014, D01 will have implemented one or more of the following programs: New Directions, Thinking for Change, and 24-7 Dads. These programs will be targeted toward those recently released from incarceration, those in the local Halfway House facility and in the local county jails who will be paroling to home placements in the D01 area.



ReEntry: A Second Chance to Make a First Impression.

By: Linda Green—Western Kentucky Correctional Complex

Reentry is the process of a convicted felon returning to life outside of prison and back into society. Many people assume that this process is done by the ReEntry Coordinator at each institution; however reentry is not a one person job. Just like it takes a community to raise a child; it takes the entire institution to teach offenders how to make changes in their lives that will help them to be productive citizens in society.



As many of you may know, 97% of all offenders will be released back into society. This means that they could someday live in your community and possibly even be your neighbor. Reentry is not something that an offender needs to start thinking about when they are within six (6) months of being released or going before the Parole Board. It is something that offenders should be thinking about starting when they are convicted. They may not even realize that their criminal way of thinking is what led them down the wrong path, and that they need to make changes in their lives so they can once again be productive citizens in our communities. That is where we, as staff, can be of assistance.

They will be given the LSCMI risk assessment, which will identify offender's strengths and also identify areas where they need additional training. The areas where they need more training are the very same areas that put them at risk of "reoffending" when released. They need to look at those obstacles or barriers that will hinder them from successfully reentering into the community so they can start working on overcoming them.

Once more, this is where we can offer assistance with the Case Management Plan or CMP. The CMP will suggest programs they can complete and goals that will guide them down the right path so they can begin to break the cycle of recidivism. These Evidence Based Programs that have been proven through reported data and have structured curriculum to address criminogenic needs identified by the LSCMI.

So whether you are a: Classification and Treatment Officer-assessing and setting goals; Educational staff-teaching offenders basic education or specialized training; Correctional Officer-helping offenders learn how to follow rules and set boundaries; Substance Abuse Program staff-teaching skills needed to overcome substance abuse issues; Aramark staff-training offenders with marketable skills; Business Office staff-processing Purchase Orders for birth certificates; Farm staff-coaching how to grow a garden and provide for yourself; Administrative staff who assist all areas of the institution to run smoothly and successfully; or the ReEntry Coordinator who prints the final paperwork for offenders being released; If you are employed at any state run institution; **ReEntry** is a part of your job responsibilities.

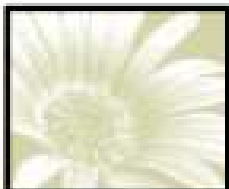
Parental Incarceration and Child Wellbeing in Fragile Families

Table 1: Differences in Child and Family Outcomes When Parents Have Been Incarcerated

Outcome	Father Incarceration	Mother Incarceration
ECONOMIC OUTCOMES		
Employment at Year 5	Child 40% more likely to have unemployed father	Child 17% more likely to have unemployed mother
Weeks worked in past year	Child's father works 2-4 fewer weeks per year	Child's mother works 4 fewer weeks per year
Hourly wages	Father earns 19% less per hour	---
Past-year earnings	Father earns 38-79% less over a year	---
FAMILY STABILITY OUTCOMES		
Family formation	Child 34% less likely to live with married parents Parents 32% more likely to live apart	Child 33% less likely to live with married parents Parents 26% more likely to live apart
Residential moves [†]	Child moves 0.6 more times	Child moves 0.7 more times
Presence of Material Hardship [‡]	Children are 25% more likely to experience material hardship	---
Public Assistance	Children are 19% more likely to receive public assistance	Children are 11% more likely to receive public assistance
Foster Care	Children are 4 times more likely to face foster system contact	Children are 5 times more likely to face foster system contact
CHILD DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES		
Physical health	---	---
Aggressive behavior	Children 44% more likely to display borderline to clinically aggressive behavior	---
Anxious/depressive behavior	---	---
Withdrawal behavior	---	---
Cognitive development	---	---
--- means no statistically significant effect at $p < .05$		

If you would like to read the article that goes along with the stats, you can find that information at: www.f2f.ca.gov/res/pdf/ParentalIncarceration.pdf

SAVE THE DATE



Five County Family & Friends of the Incarcerated & Convicted

On **October 7, 2014** guest speaker **Kerry Mears** with the **Department of Corrections Re-Entry Branch** will be available for a **Family Engagement Question & Answer session**.

DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2014
TIME: 7:00—8:00 PM



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
1930 Winchester Avenue
Ashland, Kentucky 41101
(606) 324-5335
www.FirstChristianChurch.org

The Five County (FIVCO) area encompasses:
Greenup, Carter, Elliott, Boyd, Lawrence

www.kentuckyreentry.org
www.facebook.com/FIVCOReentryCouncil
www.facebook.com/KentuckyFamiliesoftheIncarcerated

Kerry.Mears@ky.gov
502-782-2256
corrections.ky.gov

SAVE THE DATE



ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EX-OFFENDERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THEIR RETURN TO THE COMMUNITY.



FREE is a Family Centered Care Group that is focused on connecting with ex-offenders and their families with the hope that sharing our own obstacles and needs we will help others gain an understanding on life after incarceration.

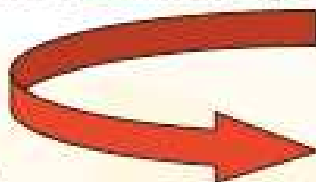
- Advice and Planning
- Employment
- Housing
- Transportation
- Education
- Clothing
- Food
- Health Care
- Family Relationships

"Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of persons working together."

Paul Ryan

Join us on October 9, 2014 at 6:00 pm

Coordinator:
George Hampton
Carol.Hampton87@yahoo.com
270-991-4556



Living Hope Baptist Church
1805 Westen Ave. Door M
Bowling Green, KY 42104
(Go to the right, down the steps)

SAVE THE DATE

Green River Kentucky Re-Entry Empowering Family and Friends of the Incarcerated

The goal of this group is to empower and support the family and friends of the incarcerated.

Upcoming Dates:

September 12, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

October 10, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

November 14, 2014 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Guest Speaker from the KY Department of Corrections to answer questions.

December 12, 2014 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: 2400 Friendship Drive, Suite B
Owensboro, KY 42303

Contact: 270-852-6516

The Green River area covers the following counties:

HANCOCK	WEBSTER
DAVISS	MCLEAN
HENDERSON	OHIO
UNION	



Group Facilitator:

Gregory L. Baize, Sr. M.Psych., PMHCNS-BC
Mediation and Counseling Center of Western KY, Inc.

SAVE THE DATE

GREATER LOUISVILLE RE-ENTRY COALITION OF FAMILY & FRIENDS OF THE INCARCERATED

ON **NOVEMBER 3, 2014** GUEST SPEAKER KERRY MEARS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RE-ENTRY BRANCH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A FAMILY ENGAGEMENT QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION.

***CHILDREN WELCOME—THE SESSION WILL INCLUDE FAMILY STRENGTHENING ART ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES.**

DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2014

TIME: 6:00–7:30 PM

LOCATION: LOUISVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY–NEWBURG
4800 EXETER AVENUE, LOUISVILLE, KY



THE GREATER LOUISVILLE AREA ENCOMPASSES THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES: JEFFERSON, BULLITT, SPENCER, SHELBY, HENRY, TRIMBLE, OLDHAM

WWW.KENTUCKYREENTRY.ORG
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LOUISVILLEREENTRY

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KENTUCKYFAMILESOFTHEINCARCERATED

CONTACT: KERRY.MEARS@KY.GOV
502-782-2256
CORRECTIONS.KY.GOV

SAVE THE DATE

BLUEGRASS FAMILIES OF THE INCARCERATED



Families of the Incarcerated is a group of family members in the Lexington, Kentucky area with loved ones incarcerated, committed to providing support to one another and provide for a smoother transition for the families once their loved ones return home. They meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at National College and welcome all families who are seeking a place of love, support, and encouragement as they deal with having a member of their family in prison.

On November 19, 2014, the KY DOC/Re-Entry Branch will be present for a Family Engagement Q & A.

PLEASE RSVP TO: jamrnorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9821 (Jim) or sheknorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9820 (Sheryl) or kerry.mears@ky.gov, 502-564-2220



Bluegrass Families of the Incarcerated
National College
2376 Sir Barton Way
Lexington, KY

Upcoming Monthly Meetings:

September 17th
October 15th
November 19th
December 17th

YOU HAVE A VOICE!! Want to use it?

Interested in joining a Reentry Council in your area?

Below you will find the Reentry Councils of Kentucky and their contact information.

KENTUCKY RE-ENTRY COUNCILS

Kentucky Reentry is made up of reentry task forces or councils throughout the state of Kentucky. The reentry groups do not provide services for ex-offenders, nor do they have reentry programs. They are made up of individuals and organizations networking together to share information and improve the reentry process. The members may be organizations and/or individuals that provide services and/or have interests in helping. Each group is focused toward ex-offenders coming back to their areas, the issues involved, and making their community safer.

The basic purposes of each group are:

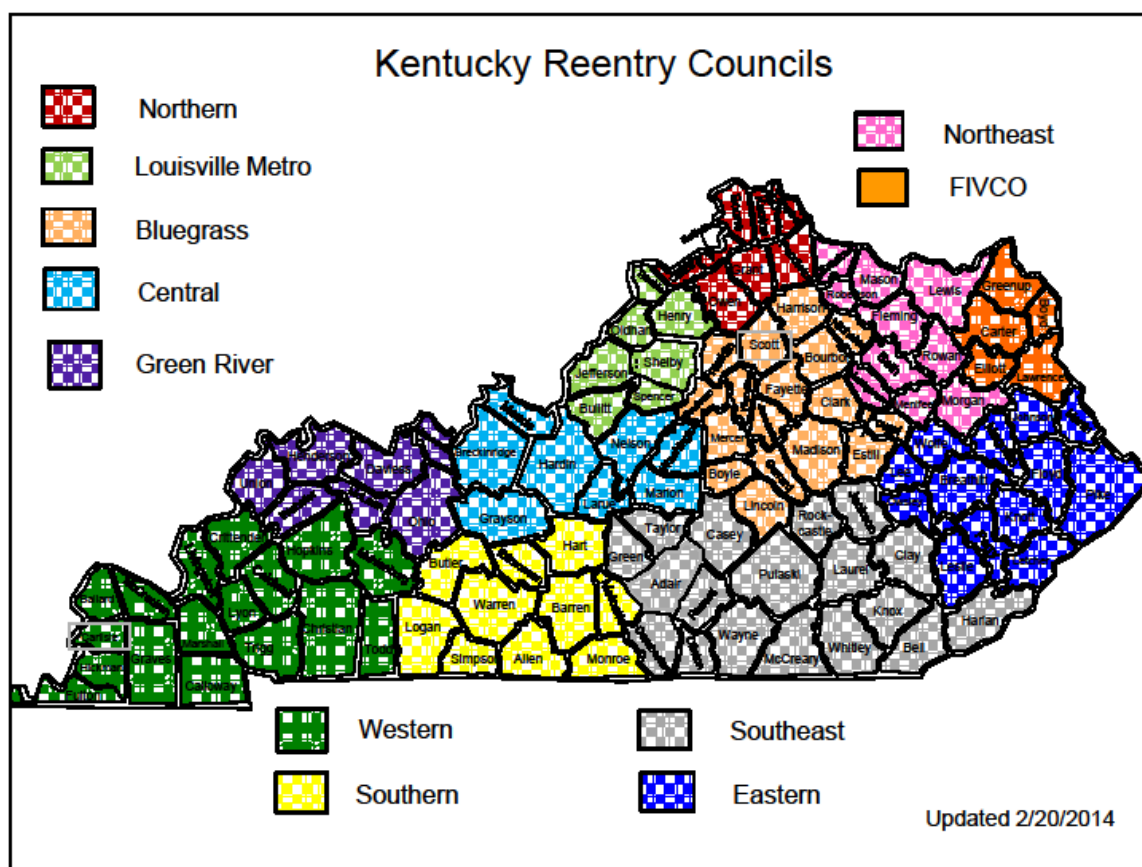
- To address the current issues ex-offenders face
- To develop a network of resources and service providers within their area
- To communicate and advocate ex-offender issues to the community and their leaders

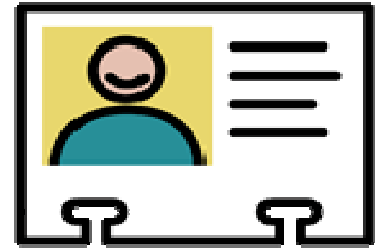
Please visit the website: www.kentuckyreentry.org

Also, visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/KentuckyReentry>

<https://www.facebook.com/louisvillereentry>





CONTACT INFORMATION

Need Resources or Information?

Check out our website: <http://corrections.ky.gov/reentry>

Click on “Pre-Release Community Resources”

www.secondchanceky.org

Do you have a felony?

Do you know someone with a felony?

Do you or someone you know need assistance with employment, housing, education, meals, and other sources to be successful?

Do you need a second chance?

www.secondchanceky.org is a website dedicated to helping people overcome obstacles in the pathway to success.

**If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, articles, etc. for the TOOLBOX, please email to:
kerry.mears@ky.gov or melissaj.moore@ky.gov**